

Message Text

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ORIGIN AID-05

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EA-06 NSC-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INR-05

INRE-00 IGA-01 CIAE-00 EB-03 L-01 PRS-01 /042 R

DRAFTED BY AID/AA/EA:AZGARDINER/STATE/EA:RHMILL

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STATE/EA:JOZURHELLEN

S/S:FORTIZ

----- 085432

O 070055Z JUN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE

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TRANSFER. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES YOU SHOULD SEEK SPECIFIC APPROVAL OF YOUR ACTION ON AN URGENT BASIS IF POSSIBLE SINCE ABANDONMENT OF AID FACILITIES WOULD JEOPARDIZE THE POSSIBILITIES OF ANY FUTURE AID RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PGNU AND POSSIBLY OUR DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AS WELL.

2. BECAUSE OF HEAVY PRESS COVERAGE, CONGRESSIONAL CONCERN AND BASIC EQUITIES OF THE SITUATION IT IS NOT AT ALL CLEAR THAT FUTURE AID RELATIONSHIP WILL BE POSSIBLE. TERMINATION BY ABANDONMENT OF USAID PROPERTY AND FACILITIES FORCED UPON US BY OFFENSIVE LAO NEGOTIATING BEHAVIOR WOULD MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO CONTEMPLATE ANY FUTURE ASSISTANCE TO THE PGNU. IT WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE TO BOTH THE EXECUTIVE AND THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCHES TO CONSIDER FURTHER AID AFTER ABANDONING PRESENT PROGRAMS UNDER PGNU PRESSURE. THE LAO SHOULD BE MADE TO UNDERSTAND THIS ESSENTIAL POINT IF CIRCUMSTANCES SO REQUIRE IT. THE LAO SHOULD ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT ABANDONMENT OR TRANSFER OF USAID PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES UNDER PGNU PRESSURE, COMING ON TOP OF THE HARASSMENT OF THE PAST WEEKS, WOULD GRAVELY JEOPARDIZE OVERALL U.S.-LAO RELATIONS.

3. IF THE TERMINATION OF USAID AND THE RELATED TRANSFERS TO THE PGNU CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED IN AN ORDERLY FASHION, YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO INCLUDE ALL AID ASSETS REGARDLESS OF FUNDING SOURCE AND TO RESUME SHIPMENTS INTO LAOS UNDER EXISTING OBLIGATING DOCUMENTS OF COMMODITIES REQUIRED FOR COMPLETION AND FULFILLMENT OF EXISTING PROJECT AGREEMENTS, AND TO TAKE THE OTHER SPECIFIC PROGRAM ACTIONS PROPOSED IN REF B TO THE EXTENT THAT YOU DETERMINE THAT ADEQUATE CONDITIONS EXIST FOR THE ACHIEVEMENT OF PROJECT PURPOSES. THREE CONDITIONS MUST BE MET IN ORDER FOR US TO CONCLUDE THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS WILL RESULT IN AN ORDERLY TRANSFER. (1) WITH RESPECT TO USAID ADMINISTRATIVE PROPERTY, NOT COVERED BY 1958-59 AGREEMENTS, YOU SHOULD DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT SUCH PROPERTY IS USEABLE BY USG AGENCIES IN LAOS OR ELSEWHERE. IN EVENT SUCH PROPERTY FALLS IN THIS
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PRINCIPLE THE RESPONSIBILITY TO COMPENSATE THE USG FOR ANY DAMAGES (PRIMARILY PAYMENTS WHICH THE USG WILL BE FORCED TO GIVE ITS EMPLOYEES ON ACCOUNT OF THE THEFT OR FORCED ABANDONMENT OF THEIR PERSONAL PROPERTY IN LAOS). WE WILL NOT BE IN A POSITION TO ASCERTAIN THE AMOUNT OF SUCH

DAMAGES FOR SOME TIME.

4. IT SHOULD BE CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD THAT RESUMPTION OF SHIPMENTS UNDER EXISTING OBLIGATIONS DOES NOT COMMIT US TO NEW OBLIGATIONS OF FY 1975 FUNDS OR TO THE ISSUE OF FUTURE AID, BOTH OF WHICH WILL BE HELD IN ABEYANCE UNTIL OUR FUTURE AID RELATIONSHIP WITH LAOS IS CLARIFIED. KISSINGER

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